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**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

In re Application of :  
Lucas R. Melton et al :  
Application No. 10/692,549 :  
Filed: October 23, 2003 :  
Attorney Docket No. 4100 :

ON PETITION

This is a decision on the petition under the unintentional provisions of 37 CFR 1.137(b), filed December 13, 2007, to revive the above-identified application.

The petition is **GRANTED**.


The application became abandoned for failure to timely file a reply within the meaning of 37 CFR 1.113 to the final Office action of April 6, 2007. The proposed reply required for consideration of a petition to revive must be a Notice of Appeal (and appeal fee required by 37 CFR 41.20(b)(2), an amendment that *prima facie* places the application in condition for allowance, a Request for Continued Examination and submission (37 CFR 1.114), or the filing of a continuing application under 37 CFR 1.53(b). See MPEP 711.03(c)(III)(A)(2). No extension of time pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) was obtained. Accordingly, the date of abandonment of this application is July 7, 2007.

The petition satisfies the requirements of 37 CFR 1.137(b) in that petitioner has supplied (1) the reply in the form of a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and fee of \$810 and the submission required by 37 CFR 1.114; (2) the petition fee of \$1540; and (3) a proper statement of unintentional delay.

An extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136 must be filed prior to the expiration of the maximum extendable period for reply. See In re Application of S., 8 USPQ2d 1630, 1631 (Comm'r Pats. 1988). Accordingly, since the \$1050 extension of time submitted with the petition on December 13, 2007 was subsequent to the maximum extendable period for reply, this fee is unnecessary and will be credit to petitioner's deposit account.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3210.

This application is being referred to Technology Center AU 2166 for processing of the RCE and for appropriate action by the Examiner in the normal course of business on the amendment submitted in accordance with 37 CFR 1.114.

  
Irvin Dingle  
Petition Examiner  
Office of Petitions